

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

GENERAL NOTES.

NEW GENERIC NAME FOR A TREE-TOAD FROM NEW GUINEA.

In 1882 Dr. G. A. Boulenger described a new genus and species of tree-toad from Ecuador as *Nyctimantis rugiceps* (Cat. Batr. Sal. Brit. Mus., pp. 421, 422). The main generic difference relied on to distinguish it from *Hyla* was the erect pupil. In 1897 (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (6) Vol. 19, p. 12) he described another species, from New Guinea, as *Nyctimantis papua*. There is not the faintest probability that these two tree-toads are directly phylogenetically related, thus constituting a natural genus, and as they differ in *N. rugiceps* having the derm of the top of the head involved in the cranial ossification, while in *N. papua* it is free, I propose as a generic term for the latter the name **Nyctimystes**. The New Guinean tree-toad should then stand as *Nyctimystes papua*.

—Leonhard Stejneger.

NOTES ON AMPHISBÆNIAN NOMENCLATURE.

As it is necessary for me to use the names in a forthcoming lecture, I wish to place on record the following changes:

The generic name *Anops* Bell, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1833, p. 99, for the South American amphisbænid lizard *A. kingii*, is preoccupied by *Anops* Oken, 1815, for a crustacean. I therefore propose to substitute for it **Anopsibæna**. The generic name *Baikia* is not available, as I consider the *B. africana* as representing a distinct genus.

Likewise, the specific name of the Cuban amphisbænid usually known as *Amphisbæna punctata* Bell, 1828, is preoccupied by *Amphisbæna punctata* Wied, 1825, from Brazil. I find, moreover, that the genus *Cadea* is a valid one, so that the Cuban species may in the future be known as *Cadea blanooides*.

—Leonhard Stejneger.